

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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FOR VOA, PGM/P, STATE FOR EA/NZ, CINCPAC FOR USICA
ADVISOR, USICA FOR PGM/R

EO 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION HUA'S TRIP

1. THE "DOMINION" THE CAPITAL'S MORNING NEWSPAPER, AUGUST 17, COMMENTED IN ITS MAIN EDITORIAL UNDER THE HEADING "CHINA VISITS THE WORLD,":
2. "IT IS A MEASURE OF THE HISTORICAL INSULARITY OF THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP THAT CHAIRMAN HUA'S TRIP TO EUROPE IS THE FIRST VENTURE OF A CHINESE RULER TO ANY POINT FARTHER WEST THAN MOSCOW. THE IMPERIAL ISOLATION OF THE MIDDLE KINGDOM IS FINALLY BROKEN. BY THE SAME TOKEN CHAIRMAN HUA'S JOURNEY UNDERLINES THE NEW IMPERATIVES WHICH BEGIN TO INFLUENCE PEKING'S POLICY. THE EXPLANATION FOR ALL THE CONSIDERABLE DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY WHICH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKES LIES IN ITS COMPULSIVE FEAR OF SOVIET HEGEMONY.
3. "AS HIS PRESENT EXCURSION EMPHASISES, CHAIRMAN HUA'S PREOCCUPATION WITH FOREIGN RELATIONS IS TO FORESTALL SOVIET ENCIRCLEMENT. THIS STRATEGY HAS REQUIRED HIM TO FASHION FRIENDSHIPS WITH OLD ENEMIES, AS LAST WEEK'S

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PAGE 02 WELLIN 04345 162336Z

TREATY WITH JAPAN ATTEMPTS, AND GENERALLY TO MAKE ALLIES OF MOSCOW'S ADVERSARIES WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE COMMUNIST CAMP....

4. "BY GOING COURTING TO EUROPE CHAIRMAN HUA WANTS TO DEMONSTRATE TO MOSCOW CHINA'S ABILITY TO INFLUENCE EVENTS THERE AND ABOVE ALL REINFORCE ANTI-SOVIET FEELING.

PRESIDENTS TITO AND CEAUSESCU, BOTH SHY OF RUSSIAN OVER-LORDSHIP, LOOK LIKE WILLING PARTICIPANTS IN PEKING'S PLOY. NOR WILL THE SHAH OF IRAN NEED MUCH ENCOURAGEMENT TO EXPRESS ANTI-RUSSIAN SENTIMENTS.
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5. "PEKING'S NEW DIPLOMATIC MOMENTUM IS LIKELY TO BE SUSTAINED FOR SOME TIME YET, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE ASEAN COUNTRIES, AND LOGICALLY IT SHOULD LEAD TO ENHANCED RELATIONS WITH WASHINGTON. AFTER ALL, IT WAS AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT WHO BROKE THE ICE WHEN MR NIXON SENT DR KISSINGER TO PEKING IN 1971. THE STUMBLING BLOCK TO FORMAL DIPLOMATIC TIES REMAINS THE UNRESOLVED TAIWAN ISSUE. CHINA MIGHT BE MORE AMENABLE NOW. IN THE LIGHT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ROLE PEKING FEELS IT MUST PLAY TO SECURE ITS ADVANTAGE OVER, OR DEFENCE FROM, MOSCOW, THE TAIWAN QUESTION MIGHT SEEM LESS IMPORTANT THAN IT ONCE WAS TO PEKING'S CALCULATIONS. CHAIRMAN HUA MAY FEEL THAT INTRACTABILITY OVER TAIWAN NO LONGER JUSTIFIES DELAYING RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES."
ANDERSON

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NNN

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